

LF006

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REMARKS**Traverse**

As discussed on the phone between Examiner Mark Hageman and Gerlinde Nattler, Groups 1 and 2 are not alternate embodiments but synergetic elements of the same apparatus.

A first element of the "measuring device" (later limited to an inductive sensor in claim 5) detects the location of a connecting point of two adjacent moving mandrels, and a second element of the measuring device (later limited to a measuring wheel in claim 7) serves as a travel sensor to determine when the detected connecting point has traveled the distance from the first element to the separating device. The first and the second element are two elements of the same apparatus cooperating with each other. Thus groups 1 and 2 should be considered a single inventive concept.

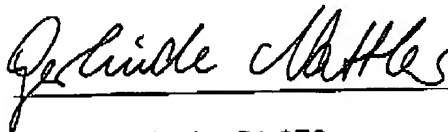
In the Claims

Claim 6 contained an error and is therefore canceled. This claim may have contributed to the confusion regarding the unity of the invention.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that groups 1 and 2 constitute one single invention.

Respectfully submitted,



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